Eng. Hist. Topogra. vol II

THE

PRESENT STATE

OF THE

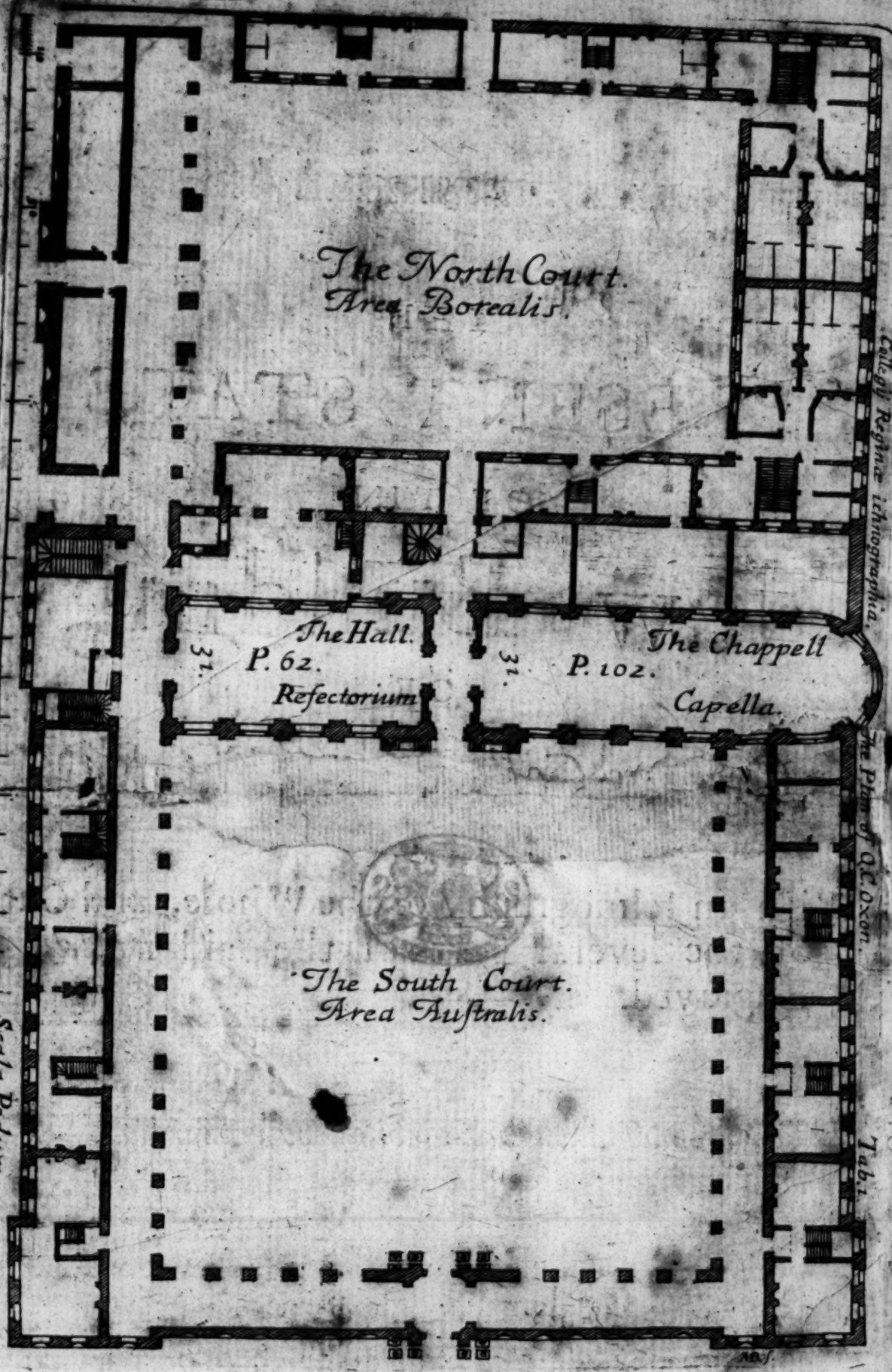
New Buildings

OF

Queens College in OXFORD.

With an Ichnography of the Whole, and Cuts of the several Parts of the said *Buildings* Engraved.

1730


The North Court.
Area Borealis.
The Hall.
P. 62.
Refectorium
The Chappell
P. 102.
Capella.
The South Court.
Area Australis.
Scala Pedum.
Tab. I.
The Plan of Q.C. Oxon.
College Reginæ ichnographia.

An Account of the Progreſs made in the New Buildings *of* Queens College *in* Oxford; *and how much remains unfiniſhed, for want of Abilities in the Colledge to* compleat *that Work.*

THE *Library* on the Weſt ſide of the North Court about 123 feet in Length, and 55 in Height, was begun by the Reverend Dr. *Timothy Halton* Provoſt, and the Fellows, *An.* 1693, and finiſh'd 1696, chiefly at His and the Society's Expence. A noble Building of the *Corinthian Order*, with a beautiful Cloiſter

to

to the East, and the Statues of the Founder and principal Benefactors to the College in Niches to the West. 'Tis furnish'd with a good Collection of Books from the Old Library, with a great Part of the excellent Libraries of the Right Reverend Dr. *Barlow* late Bishop of *Lincoln*, and of the Reverend Dr. *Halton* successively Provosts; with a curious and valuable Collection of Books given by Sir *Joseph Williamson* Knight, sometime Fellow of the College, Secretary of State to King *Charles* the Second, and Plenipotentiary at the two Treaties of *Cologne* and *Ryswick*.

The *Library* is joyn'd by the *Provost*'s *Lodgings*, and other Apartments belonging to the *Fellows* and *Scholars*, extending from the South end, to the High-street, in Length about 222 feet, in Height upwards of 51, with a Cloister continued in a line to that of the Library.

This was finish'd *An.* 1710, and made the West side of the College near 345 feet Long.

On the North side of the North Court is erected a *New Building*, containing Apartments for *Gentlemen Commoners* and *Commoners*, in Length about 210 feet, in Height 39: one half of it built at the sole Charge of Dr. *Lancaster* late Provost, and the other half at the common Expence of the Society.

The

The *New Hall* and *Chapel* joyning the *Library* and *Lodgings* begun *An.* 1713, extend to the East, 220 feet in Length, in Height 54, being very well proportion'd and agreeable to their respective designs. There is a *Passage* between them from the South to the North Court (fronting the *New Gate* design'd to be made into the *High-Street*) the Walls of which carry a large and handsome *Cupola* with 8 *Ionick* Columns, and all the proper Ornaments of that *Order*. The outside of the whole is a *Dorick Building*, and the inside of the *Hall* beautified with the same *Order:* but the inside of the *Chapel* is entirely *Corinthian*, the *Ceiling* of which being *Fretwork* is not inferior to that *Order*.

For these Buildings and this happy Change of our very old and *decaying Mansion*, the College is principally indebted to the Munificence of Sir *Joseph Williamson* Knight, before mention'd, (who by his last Will left 6000 *l.* to be applied to this purpose) and to that of the Rev^d^ Dr. *Lancaster* then Provost, who began the *New Building* upon that Fund, and who, besides his expending the greatest Part of the Annual Income of his Preferments while living, left a Legacy of 1000 *l.* at his Death, to carry on the Work.

It must also with Honour and Gratitude be acknowledg'd, that the Right Reverend and

Right

Right Honourable the Lord *Crew* Lord Biſhop of *Durham*, Mr. *Lewis* of *Hampſhire*, and Mr. *Clitherow* of *Boſton*, pleaſed with theſe Beginnings, and ſenſible of the great Misfortune the College lay under, in the Loſs of their worthy Provoſt, contributed very generouſly upon this occaſion; and many who had formerly been Fellows of the College, were likewiſe very Liberal according to their Preferments and Circumſtances in the World.

But notwithſtanding theſe Benefactions, the Society being burthen'd with a conſiderable Arrear, on account of the Buildings, at Dr. *Lancaſter*'s Death, and having the North Court in part, and a yet greater part of the South Court left upon their hands unbuilt, the then Provoſt and Fellows endeavour'd by all means poſſible, to extricate themſelves from theſe Difficulties, and carry on the Plan deſign'd. And ſo ſucceſsful were their Endeavours by God's Bleſſing to this End, that by the farther Aſſiſtance of Others who had been of the College, and by Contributing Annually themſelves all that could poſſibly be ſpared out of their own Subſiſtence for Thirteen Years together, they have been ſo happy as to pay off the forementioned Arrears, and to ſee the North Court entirely finiſh'd, during the Provoſtſhip of Dr. *Gibſon* lately deceaſed.

What

What remains towards compleating the whole Plan of the College, and making it farther Commodious for the Reception of young Scholars from the ſeveral Counties (as our pious Founder in his Statutes directs) is another Wing of Building on the Eaſt ſide of the firſt Court, and a *New Cloiſter* and *Gate-way* opening to the *High-ſtreet* on the South.

The Expence of which, upon the niceſt Computation the Builders are able to make, will amount to 5000*l.* *viz.*

1. For the *Eaſt-ſide Wing* 3600*l.*
2. For the *New Gate* and *Cloiſter* 800*l.*
3. For the Purchaſe of the *Old Tenements*, where the *New Gate* and *Cloiſter* are to be, 600*l.*

The Society is ready to do what in them lies (even to the ſtraitning of themſelves, as they have hitherto done) towards the compleating of this great Work; but ſince it is far above their own Abilities, and what they cannot hope to ſee effected without very conſiderable Aſſiſtance from abroad, they take the freedom in this publick manner ingenuouſly to repreſent the State of their Caſe, and humbly to offer it to the Conſideration of all ſuch Generous Perſons whoſe Diſpoſitions incline, and whoſe Abilities impower them to Encourage ſo noble

and

and generous a Design. There is but one thing more, neceſſary to be mention'd on this occaſion, *viz.* That whatever Benefactions are given to the Society, they ſhall not only be receiv'd with all imaginable Gratitude, but faithfully employ'd for the Purpoſes abovemention'd: And that particular Care will be taken to record the Names of the ſeveral Benefactors in their Publick Regiſter, and tranſmit their Memory with due Honour to ſucceeding Generations.

Queens College,
Dec. 21. 1732.